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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Pee Dee Branch Baptist Association

HELD WITH

SARON CHURCH, RICHMOND COUNTY, N. C.,

OCTOBER 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th, 1885.

RALEIGH, N.C.,
BAPTIST STANDARD PRINT.
1886.

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LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

Elias Baldwin	Capell's Store,	N. C.
R. Covington,	Rockingham,	"
S. W. Dockery,	"	"
G. B. Mason	"	"
A. Covington		
D. C. Campbell	Laurinburg,	"
H. McIntire	"	"
M. C. McMillan	Sh e Heel,	"
E. V. Reid	Cheraw,	S. C.
T. A. Lomax	Lilesville,	N. C.
R. L. Jeffers	Alma,	"
Western Wall	Rockingham,	"

LICENTIATES.

Washington Monroe	Laurinburg,	N. C.
Green Monroe	"	"
Sandy Johnson	"	"
William Mason	Rockingham	"
A. Dockery	"	"
J. E. Elerbe	"	"
T. A. Crouch	"	"
B. Covington		
J. J. C. Campbell	Laurinburg,	"
Moses Monroe	"	"

PROCEEDINGS.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Pee Dee Branch Baptist Association met with the Saron church in Richmond county, N. C., Rev. G. B. Mason, pastor, on Thursday before the second Sunday in October, 1885, in its fifteenth annual session, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m.

Rev. E. V. Reid, Assistant Moderator, sang hymn on page 989, and read the third chapter of Thessalonians.

Prayer by Rev. T A. Lomax.

On motion, Rev. Isaac Williams, of the South Carolina Pee Dee Association, was called to preach the introductory sermon, assisted by T. A. Lomax.

Read Acts of the Apostles 2 : 3. Preached a good sermon.

Rev. E. V. Reid then called the house to order, stated the absence of the Moderator, and announced it ready for business.

The body then went into a permanent organization. Rev. E. V. Reid was made Moderator, W. H. Woodard, Clerk, and Calvin Wadkin, Treasurer.

The Association then adjourned one hour. Prayer by Bro. Henry Deberry. Benediction by the Moderator.

Afternoon Session.

The house was called together by singing 1803 hymn. Read the first chapter of John. Prayer by the Moderator.

Rev. G. B. Mason, pastor of the church, in a neat speech bade the Association a cordial welcome to the church, saying he truly hoped love and union would prevail throughout the session.

The churches were then called for, and the names of delegates were enrolled as follows:

Lilesville—T. A. Lomax, A. Byrd and T. Robeson.
Nashville—N. Woodard, Geo. Malloy and T. D. McNeill.
Holly Grove—A. Elerbe, Harrison Hurley and H. Deberry.
Bethlehem—H. T. Carmikle.
Mount Olive—W. M. Wade, Henderson Wade and E. B. Wall.

Saron—Geo. Hines, H. Baldwin and Nathan Bostick.
Rockingham—H. T. Townsend.
Spring Branch—H. Monroe, E. McLaughlin and W. H. Woodard.
Solomon Creek—Not represented.
Shoe Heel—J. H. McLean.
Snow Hill—J. J. C. Campbell.
Laurinburg—D. C. Campbell.
Center Grove—Represented by letter.
Alma—R. L. Jeffers.
Cool Spring- Jenkin Huff, F. B. Bennett and Calvin Bennett.

The Constitution was called for and read by the Clerk, and the Rules of Decorum.

The Association changed its name in part, known now as the Pee Dee Branch Association.

A committee on Devotional Exercises was appointed by the Moderator, consisting of Henry Monroe, N. Woodard, J. J. C. Campbell, A. Byrd and T. Robeson.

On motion of A. Elerbe that a committee of five on finances be appointed by the Association, namely, H. T. Carmikle, A. Elerbe, Geo. Malloy, Eli McLaughlin and Henderson Wade.

The Devotional committee reported no service at night.

The Association adjourned with prayer by Rev. D. C. Campbell. Benediction by the Moderator.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session.

At the hour of 9 o'clock a m., the Association met at the place according to adjournment.

Bro. R. L. Jeffers, of Alma church, preached a sermon from the 20th chapter of Revelations, 12th verse. Prayer by Rev. R. Covington.

A collection was taken up to the amount of $1.47, after which the body taken a recess of ten minutes.

The Association re assembled by singing. Prayer by Elias Baldwin. The house was then announced ready for business by the Moderator.

The minutes of the first days session were called for and read, received and adopted.

A resolution was offered by S. W. Dockery, as follows:

Whereas, There is so much at stake to be accomplished,
***Be it Resolved*, That we the members of this Association do labor for the time to come to bring about more union and good feelings among our brethren, for in union there is strength.**

The Association adjourned one hour for dinner by singing. Prayer by Rev. S. W. Dockery. Benediction by the Moderator.

Afternoon Session.

The association re-assembled at 2 o'clock p. m., the Moderator in the chair. The 93rd Psalm was read by the Moderator and prayer by same.

The house was then announced ready for the transaction of business.

A motion was made to hear the minutes of the forenoon session read. The Clerk then read the proceedings, which was received and adopted by the body.

On motion, the letters of the various churches were read.

Lilesville church, $6.90; Nashville church, $4.00; Holly Grove church, $10.49; Bethlehem church, ...; Mount Olive church, $1.00; Saron church, $5.00; Rockingham church, .70; Spring Branch church, $12.25; Solomon's Creek church, ...; Shoe Hill church, $1.50; Laurinburg church, $2.00; Snow Hill church, ...; Center Grove church, .90; Alma church, .50; Cool Springs church, $1.00; Total amount, $46.64.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed on Education, consisting of Rev. S. W. Dockery, E. B. Wall, Hampton Baldwin, Rev. D. C. Campbell and F. B. Bennett.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed on Home Missions, consisting of Rev. G. B. Mason, W. M. Wade, T. A. Lomax, Geo. Hines and W. H. Woodard.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed on Foreign Missions, as follows: Rev. A. Covington, Rev. Elias Baldwin, T. D. McNeil, R. L Jeffers and Harrison Hurley.

The committee on Devotional Exercises, reported preaching at night by Rev. T. A. Lomax. After which Rev. D. C. Campbell, of Laurinburg church, made a speech on the work of the Association and the great need of education; he also spoke of the progress that had been made, but said there was yet room for more and the young ministers of the Pee Dee Branch should be more aroused in the future.

The body then adjourned by singing. Prayer by Rev. Isaac Williams, of the South Carolina Association. Benediction by the Moderator.

Night Session.

The people assembled at night to hear Rev. T. A. Lomax who preached from the 19th chapter of Revelation, 7th verse. Prayer by Rev. F. B. Bennett.

A collection was taken up to the amount of 50 cents.

THIRD DAY—Morning Session.

The congregation gathered themselves together by singing. Prayer by Bro. J. J. C. Campbell.

A sermon was preached by Rev. F. B. Bennett from the 1st chapter of Ezekiel, 16th verse.

Rev. E. V. Reid made a speech showing the great need of mission work in this and other counties; he made a deep impression on the delegation and all that heard him.

A collection was taken up to the amount of $1.30.

The body then taken a recess for ten minutes, after which the Association re-assembled for business, by singing the 830th hymn. Prayer by Bro. A. Elerbe.

The Moderator called the house to order and announced it ready for business.

The minutes of the last evening session was read, received and adopted.

On motion, the finance committee's report was read as follows: Found in the hands of the Treasurer, $8.90; Money sent up by the churches, $46.64; Public collections, $3.90.

Invitation was given to all visiting brethren to take seats with the body. Rev. J. C. Bowden, from the Yadkin Association, came forward and took a seat in the council.

Speeches were made in the interest of Rockingham church by R. Covington, S. W. Dockery, W. H. Woodard and G. B. Mason and others, after which a collection was taken up for Rockingham amounting to $11.40.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed to look out and to see about the building of Rockingham church, viz: Rev. G. B. Mason, W. H. Woodard, W. M. Wade, D. C. Campbell and H. T. Townsend.

The Examining Board read their report, which was received and adopted.

The Missionary reported that he had constituted one church, ordained one minister, and licensed one.

The Board for this year is S. W. Dockery, G. B. Mason and D. C. Campbell.

On motion, Rev. E. V. Reid was allowed $5.00.

On motion, the Clerk was allowed $10.00.

On motion, Rev. T. A. Lomax read the report on Foreign Missions, which was received and adopted. (See report in appendix.)

The Clerk then read some important resolutions sent up to the Association by Rev. John Monroe, which, after several speeches in their favor, were received with the highest appreciation. (See appendix.)

By J. J. C. Campbell, that we have a Sunday School Union in the Pee Dee bounds, and that the first meeting be held at Laurinburg, N. C., Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1886.

By D. C. Campbell, that wherever the Association convened, if the church is without a Bible the Association should leave one at said church.

Afternoon Session.

The Association reassembled at 2 o'clock p. m. Sang hymn 1084. Prayer by Rev. D. C. Campbell.

A sermon was then preached by Rev. R. Covington from Exodus 4: 17: "And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs." He showed the great power of God in protecting his church. A collection was taken up to the amount of 55 cents. Prayer by Rev. S. W. Dockery.

The Moderator called the house to order and announced it ready for business.

The minutes of the forenoon session were called for and read and adopted.

The Committee on Education read their report. (See appendix.)

On motion, the Committee on Home Missions reported. (See appendix.)

The Committee on Foreign Missions read their report. (See appendix.)

Invitation was given to all visiting brethren to take seats with the body.

The Association adjourned by singing. Prayer by the Moderator. Benediction by Rev. Isaac Williams.

Night Session.

The congregation met at 7 o'clock. The Moderator stated that the object of the meeting was to ordain Bros. T. A. Lomax, R. L. Jeffers and Western Wall.

The above named brethren, after a thorough examination, were set apart for the Gospel ministry. Rev. S. W. Dockery gave the charge to them. Prayer by Rev. G. B. Mason.

A sermon was then preached by Rev. G. B. Mason from the third chapter of Matthew and the latter clause of the third verse: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." Hymn 947, "Go preach my gospel, saith the Lord," &c.

The following were appointed to preach at the next Association: Rev. G. B. Mason the Introductory Sermon, Rev. S. W. Dockery the Missionary Sermon.

Rev. D. C. Campbell asked that the next Association be held at Laurinburg Baptist church, which was granted.

On motion of Rev. A. Covington, that all the ministers in the Pee Dee Branch do all that within them lies in the mission work.

The Association adjourned. Benediction by the Moderator.

Sunday Morning Session.

At the hour of ten the ground was thickly populated with people from every direction.

The Moderator called the Association together, and the minutes of the night's session were called for and read, received and adopted.

Bro. S. W. Dockery made a speech in the interest of Shaw University and Estey Seminary, saying we as Baptists should send our sons and daughters to said schools.

W. H. Woodard then made a speech in the interest of the *Baptist Standard*, and said we should subscribe to it, for it is the organ by which we can know what the Baptists are doing in the State.

The body took recess ten minutes.

At the hour of 11 o'clock a. m., the congregation gathered to hear the missionary sermon, which was preached by Rev. E. V. Reid from Prov. 3: 9—10. Hymn on page 998. Prayer by Rev. G. B. Mason. A collection was taken up to the amount of $13.43.

Afternoon Session.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the people reassembled to hear Rev. S. W. Dockery. Sang hymn 1188. Text, Romans 8: 32. Prayer by Rev. E. V. Reid.

The Association then adjourned to meet at Laurinburg, Thursday before the second Sunday in October, in the year of our Lord 1886.

E. V. REID, Moderator.

W. H. Woodard, *Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

DEAR BRETHREN :—I have taken in consideration, the great need of Foreign Missions, and I do think it a work that should be highly appreciated by us as missionaries. Dear brethren, think of it, while we are blest with gospel opportunities in this country, many of the sons and daughters of Ham are perishing for the light of the gospel; shall we sit still and say they shall perish, or shall we do all in our power to send the gospel to them. I do answer yes, yes, let us do all we can, that the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, be preached in Africa. Dear brethren, God will help us if we work in this direction.

Brethren, we say we are Missionary Baptists, if so, let us show it in this great cause by sending money to the Missionaries now in Africa, and also encourage young men and women to go to that dark land where men and women are bowing to stocks and stones, calling it their God. Bro. Hays and others are there and we should aid them, that they may be able to teach and preach the gospel to them.

Brethren, let us become concerned in this matter, and work during this year, for the missionary work in Africa as much as possible, and God will bless our efforts.

Yours for the work,

T. A. LOMAX.

LILESVILLE, N. C.

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

CHURCHES.	NAMES.	POST OFFICES.
Lilesville	T. A. Lomax	Lilesville, N. C.
Nashville	T. D. McNeil	Laurinburg, N. C.
Bethlehem	T. Carmikle	Laurinburg, "
Holly Grove	A. Elerbe	Rockingham, "
Mount Olive	Laurence Hines	Malee, "
Saron	Fred. Baldwin	Capel's Mills, "
Rockingham	H. Townsend	Rockingham, "
Spring Branch	R. S. Livingston	Montpelier, "
Shoe Heel	R. Campbell	Shoe Heel, "
Laurinburg	H. H. Goodson	Laurinburg, "
Snow Hill	J. J. C. Campbell	Shoe Heel, "
Center Grove	D. C. McNeil	Melrose, "
Alma	A. D. McNeil	Alma, "
Cool Spring	T. Calston	Morven, "

LIST OF CHURCHES, THEIR MEMBERS AND VALUATION.

CHURCHES.	Members.	Valuation.
Spring Branch	300	$ 1,500
Nashville	57	800
Rockingham	7	100
Bethlehem	70	100
Holly Grove	200	1,500
Shoe Heel	18	75
Laurinburg	120	1,500
Saron	189	800
Mount Olive	20	500
Center Grove	10	50
Cool Spring	20	50
Lilesville	70	500
Snow Hill	25	25
Alma	20	150
Solomon's Creek	60	250
	1,186	$ 7,400

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We your committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to submit the following report:

We have carefully considered the great mission work, especially in Africa, to be of great importance, and urge that we turn our attention to this important work more in the future than we have in the past.

A. COVINGTON,
ELIAS BALDWIN,
T. D. MCNEIL,
R. L. JEFFERS,
H. HURLEY.
Committee.

The members of each church connected with this association is taxed ten cents each, to be sent up to the next Association, for the benefit of the mission work of the Association.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

We your committee beg leave to offer the following report:

WHEREAS, Home Missions is of grave importance and should be carefully considered by us as a denomination, as one among our christian duties, we do hope our brethren will do more in this direction in the future than has been done in past.

Brethren, it is important that we should let our minds and attention and prayer to God that the work of our Association may be

greatly improved, both in building good churches and having able ministers to occupy them; to do this we must stand together and work.

G. B. MASON,
W. M. WADE,
T. A. LOMAX,
GEO. HINES,
W. H. WOODARD,
Committee.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We your committee beg leave to submit the following:

WHEREAS, There is a great work before us to be done. and that only educated men and women can do the work successfully that is before us, as teachers and preachers, let us do all in our power to educate and help educate young men and women connected with our association, who have the work at heart, for education is power in the ministerial ranks.

S. W. DOCKERY,
D. C. CAMPBELL,
HAMPTON BALDWIN,
F. B. BENNETT,
E. B. WALL,
Committee.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. All the churches should have for a motto a converted church membership. To secure this desirable and remarkably important result, the greatest possible care should be exercised in the reception of persons applying for membership. Paul the apostle, was very careful to testify to both Jews and Gentiles, "Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." The Ethiopian Eunuch would not be admitted to baptism by Phillip, unless he had believed with all his heart in Jesus, as the Son of God, and the Saviour of lost sinners; and when admitted and buried in baptism he proved that his conversion was genuine, as he went on his way rejoicing. Unconverted persons are of the world, and in the world they should remain until such time as in infinite mercy Christ is exalted to be a prince and Saviour shall grant them repentance and the remission of all their sins.

3. All the members of all the churches old members and young ones should be carefully and perseveringly instructed relative to all the services expected of them by the great head of the church, who having bought them with his own precious blood and made them his workmanship created unto good works which God ordained before hand.

3. That we should walk in them.

Under this second head let us furnish a list of some of the duties to be attended to :

1. Prayer in the pulpit by the pastors and exhorters, in the prayer-meeting, in the Sunday-school, in the family, and last but not least, prayer by every church member, male and female in Christ, or in the retirement of the grove. Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint on his or her knees. 'Tis prayer that all our blessings draw from heaven in Jesus' name.

2. Taking heed how they hear, and giving special heed to the doctrines advanced and improving them, whether they be in accordance with the unchangeable standard of eternal truth, even the word of God, as recorded in the Bible.

3. Teaching carefully and prayerfully the Scriptures, as they are commanded to do by him whom they profess to love.

4. By abounding in every thing which is true, and pure, and honest, and lovely, and of good report.

5. By unceasing and self-denying efforts to send the holy and glorious Bible to every son and daughter of Adam, and then the happy time shall have arrived when the blessed knowledge of Christ, even him crucified, shall fill the whole world. Amen, and amen.

JOHN MONROE.

WHEREAS, We have been so kindly treated by the brethren and sisters and friends while here assembled,

Be it resolved, That this delegation tender to them their heart-felt thanks for the kind hospitality shown toward us while in their midst.

W. H. WOODARD.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be denominated and known as the Pee Dee Branch Baptist Association.

ART. 2. The object of this Association shall be the promotion of Christ's kingdom among men, and the means of accomplishing this shall be in strict conformity with the New Testament.

ART. 3. This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the churches connected with it, each church being entitled to three delegates. Ministers who are members of the churches connected with this body shall be considered members of this Association.

ART 4 The delegates from each church shall bear a letter, certifying their appointment and giving an account of all funds contributed for benevolent purposes during the year.

ART. 5. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, chosen annually by ballot. A plurality of votes shall constitute an election, and they shall continue in office until their successors are elected.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside during the deliberations of the body, enforce and observe the Constitution, preserve decorum, appoint committees, decide all questions of order, give his opinion on subjects under discussion after others have spoken, or when called upon, and give the casting vote in case of a tie.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to record the proceedings of each annual session and superintend the printing of the minutes and their distribution to the churches.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds sent up by the churches, or collected during the session of this body, and disburse the same as ordered by the Association. He shall also make an annual report of the condition of the Treasury at each session of the Association.

ART. 9. Any church desiring to become a member of this body shall present her petition at an annual session through delegates, and if the Association consents to receive her, the Moderator shall extend to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 10. The Association shall not maintain fellowship with any church that neglects to preserve gospel order.

ART. 11. The Association may invite visiting brethren to seats and extend to them all the privileges of the body save that of voting.

ART. 12. The annual session of this body shall be held at such time and place as will be considered most expedient.

ART. 13. By the appointment of the Association, there shall be preached during each annual session the Introductory and Missionary Sermons.

ART. 14. This Constitution may be amended at any annual session by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Approved and adopted on Saturday, September 10th, 1870, at Cartledge's Creek, Richmond county, N. C.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Moderator shall fill the chair and preserve decorum in the Association; of him punctuality, gravity and vigilance are particularly required. He shall open and close the Association by prayer, or call upon some brother to perform this service. He shall appoint committees with the sanction of the Association, explain questions, administer reproof, and decide between contending claims. He should never speak in debate except on important questions, and then not until he has given others a fair opportunity to give their views; and he shall appoint some other member to the chair. He may require motions to be presented in written form whenever he may deem it necessary.

2 The Clerk shall enroll the names of the members and record the proceedings of the body, and discharge such other duties as the Association may direct.

3. The members of the Association shall observe that respect toward the officers and each other which becometh those who reverence that Great Being whose cause they should all labor to support. All invectives should be carefully avoided by members while speaking, and those who are not speaking should refrain from all indecorous conduct as is calculated to throw odium on the speaker, or to interrupt his chain of thought or good feeling, or in any way disturb the peace of the Association. No member may withdraw without permission from the Moderator, nor speak on any one question longer than six minutes at a time without permission from the house. "Let all things be done decently and in order."—1 Cor. 14th chap., 40th verse.

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Published Every Other Week,

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